विदेश मंत्री (श्री माधवसिंह सोलंकी): (क) और (ख) सरकार को इस संबंध में समाचारपत्रों की खबरों की जानकारी है। मई, 1989 में भारत के गृह सचिव और पाकिस्तान के आन्तरिक सचिव की बैठक में लिए गए निर्णय के अनुसरण में भारत-पाक सीमा के कुछ क्षेत्रों में संयुक्त समन्वित गश्त शुरू की गई थी। तथापि, पाकिस्तानी पक्ष से पर्याप्त सहयोग न मिल पाने के कारण इससे वांछित परिणाम हासिल नहीं किये जा सके। सरकार ने अन्य आवश्यक उपाय किए हैं जैसे भारत-पाक सीमा पर चुनिंदा क्षेत्रों में कंटीले तार लगाना।

Modification of India's stand on Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty

2718. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the summit meeting of the Security Council held at New York recently some pressure was exherted on India to modify its stand on Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty; and

(b) if so, what was the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Leaders of some of the countries which attended the Summit meeting of the Security Council in their statements urged in general terms, for universalisation of the N.P.T. Government continues to remain opposed to the N.P.T. and our principle position on nuclear non-proliferation was reiterated by the Prime Minister in his address.

Appointment of commercial counsellors abroad

2719. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to appoint industrialists and professionals from important export promotion councils as India's commercial counsellors at various Missions abroad;

(c) whether some industrialists have already been approached to suggest the names of such experts from the Private Sector; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the response from the industrialists and professionals?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Agreement with Pakistan on Siachin

2720. SHRI SHABBIR AHMED SALARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on Siachin Glacier an agreement has been reached with Pakistan but that agreement has been signed so far;

(b) whether Government have decided to sign such agreement;

(c) if so, what are the terms of agreements; and

(d) what is the expenditure that Government is incurring in Siachin?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Adequate provisions have been made to meet the cost of troop deployment in the Siachin Glacier.

Siachin Glacier

2721. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleassed to state:

(a) what is the total area of Siachin Glacier;

(b) what area of the glacier is in Pakistan and what falls with India; and

(c) what progress has so far been achieved in regarding the territory of the glacier from Pak?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The Siachin Glacier area is approximately 76 km in length and 6 to 8 kilometres in width.

(b) The entire Glacier is under India control.

(c) Does not arise.

Return of Srilankan Refugees from India

2722. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his visit to Colombo in connection with SAARC Summit Prime Minister held discussions with his Srilankan counterpart and Government to ensure return of Srilankan refugees from India;

(b) if so, the precise outcome of the talks; and

(c) the steps since taken to secure return of these refugees to Srilanka?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Following that meeting, in consultation and agreement with the Government of Sri Lanka, Government commenced the voluntary repatriation of Tamil refugees back to Sri Lanka from 20th January 1992. Upto 9th March, 1992 about 7874 refugees have been repatriated. The repatriation process is based on the indication by the refugees of their willingness to return and on the assurances by Sri Lanka Government regarding the safety, security and appropriate rehabilitation arrangements for the returnees.

Role of Non-Aligned Movement

2723. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up the matter regarding role of Non-Aligned Movement in the global politics in view of the collapse of communist bloc with member countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The member countries of the Non-aligned Movement have examined the role and relevance of the Movement in the changed international situation at its recent meetings in Ghana and Cyprus. The consensus at these meetings was that the Movement should continue to voice the political and economic aspirations of the members of the Movement.

Steps to Propagate Indian stand on Nuclear Free Zone

2724. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to educate inform and enlighten the people of the newly formed independent republics after the dissolution of USSR, about India's stand on the formation of a nuclear free zone in South Asia as proposed in the recent Pak-resolution adopted at the UN; and

(b) what steps were taken in this direction with respect to the people of China, Japan, US, Britain, France, Germany, Pakistan, Bangladesh and others especially neighbouring countries?